**Minutes**

**Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board**

**April 12, 2017**

**Special Meeting**

Commissioners Present: Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Duane Bakke (Fillmore County), Brad Anderson (Goodhue County), Fred Arnold (Houston County), James Brady (Steele County), Tim Gabrielson (Mower), Steve Jacob (Winona), Rich Hall (Wabasha County), Jake Gillen (Rice County).

Others present: John Helmers (Olmsted County), Glen Roberson (Goodhue SWCD/TSA), Shaina Keseley (BWSR), Jennifer Mocol-Johnson (BWSR), Donna Rasmussen (Fillmore SWCD), Linda Dahl (SEMWRB), Terry Lee (Olmsted County).

Meeting called to order by Chair, James Brady, at 1:00 p.m.

**Item 1.** Discuss options for director replacement: Commissioner Brady summarized the executive committee’s recommendation stemming from their meeting with the SE SWCD Technical Support JPB (TSA) Executive Committee, Olmsted County and Dodge County staff on April 5th in Mantorville. The executive committee recommends that Olmsted County be authorized to take on the task of hiring for the SEMWRB director position and to locate the position in the Olmsted County office. In addition they recommend authorizing the two JPBs to start the practice of shared administration through the transfer of the administration of one grant from the TSA to the SEMWRB. Brady also clarified that Dodge County explored hosting the position but concluded the labor pool would be smaller and their hiring timeline would be considerably longer than Olmsted’s.

Terry Lee, Olmsted County, presented a request to authorize action to support Olmsted County’s hiring of Linda Dahl’s replacement:

1. Authorize Olmsted to hire a full time position with benefits (*benefits* *needed to attract qualified applicants*),
2. Authorize Olmsted and the new hire to sign a 12 month employment contract *(a minimum of one year employment is needed to provide benefits*),
3. Authorize Olmsted to purchase up to $10,000 of staff services from the Board in 2017 (*needed to fully fund the position through 2017*),
4. Authorize the SEMWRB staff to sign a sub recipient agreement with the TSA Board for administration of at least one grant (*also needed to fully fund the position*),
5. Authorize Olmsted to work with the SEMWRB to develop a staffing proposal for 2018 and beyond (*needed to be able to sign a 12 month employment contract*).

Commissioner Bakke clarified that this request in essence has the SEMWRB purchasing a 0.75 FTE position from Olmsted County for the administration of SEMWRB business.

Commissioner Anderson envisions that long-term, once all the watersheds in the region have completed the One Watershed One Plan process, it would be of benefit for a regional organization to be geared up to do the administration and fiscal agency for some watersheds that choose not to form joint powers board organizations.

Commissioner Jacob stated he wants the motion to include that we will move toward forming one JPB organization of SWCD and County elected officials. Commissioner Bakke expressed that seemed reasonable. Commissioner Gillen stated it is not just a decision of the SEMWRB but the TSA has to agree to that proposition as well. Consensus was that the SEMWRB will work with the TSA toward this goal of forming one joint organization.

Motion by Commissioner Bakke that we support all five of the requested actions presented by Olmsted County, Seconded by Commissioner Peterson; motion passed unanimously.

**Item 2.** Motion to Adjourn: Motion by, Commissioner Anderson to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Commissioner Gillen; motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Dahl, SEMWRB Director

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Chairperson

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_